

Appl. No.: 09/697,645
Amdt. dated 06/10/2005
Reply to final Office Action of 02/10/05

Amendments to the Claims:

Claims 1-7. (Cancelled)

8. (Previously Presented) A method for increasing reliability of booking airline travel itineraries comprising the steps of:

obtaining a candidate itinerary including availability information;

creating a situation table based upon availability data for the candidate itinerary from each of at least two data sources, the situation table comprising sample itineraries and historical availability information, wherein creating a situation table comprises:

obtaining availability information from at least two data sources based on the candidate itinerary;

determining a difference between the availability information from the at least two sources; and

storing in the situation table an indication that the availability information should be updated prior to booking, wherein the indication is based on the difference; and determining whether the availability information should be updated based on the candidate itinerary and the situation table.

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Original) The method of claim 8 further comprising:

dynamically updating the situation table based on the availability information.

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8, wherein the storing step further comprises:

Appl. No.: 09/697,645
Amdt. dated 06/10/2005
Reply to final Office Action of 02/10/05

storing in the situation table an indication that the availability information should be updated prior to booking but only when the candidate itinerary is not rendered irrelevant by fare rules.

13. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8, wherein the storing step further comprises:

storing in the situation table an indication that the availability information should be updated prior to booking but only when a difference between the availability information from the at least two sources exceeds an error threshold.

Claims 14-20. (Cancelled)

21. (Previously Presented) A system for increasing reliability of booking airline travel itineraries implemented on a computer, the system comprising:

means for obtaining a candidate itinerary including availability information; and
means for creating a situation table based upon availability data for the candidate itinerary from each of at least two data sources, the situation table comprising sample itineraries and historical availability information, wherein creating a situation table comprises:

obtaining availability information from at least two data sources based on the candidate itinerary;

determining a difference between the availability information from the at least two sources; and

storing in the situation table an indication that the availability information should be updated prior to booking, wherein the indication is based on the difference; and
means for determining whether the availability information should be updated based on the candidate itinerary and the situation table.

22. (Cancelled)

Appl. No.: 09/697,645
Amdt. dated 06/10/2005
Reply to final Office Action of 02/10/05

23. (Original) The system of claim 21 further comprising:
means for dynamically updating the situation table based on the availability information.

24. (Cancelled)

25. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 21, wherein the means for storing
further comprises:

means for storing in the situation table an indication that the availability information
should be updated prior to booking but only when the candidate itinerary is not rendered
irrelevant by fare rules.

26. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 21, wherein the means for storing
further comprises:

means for storing in the situation table an indication that the availability information
should be updated prior to booking but only when a difference between the availability
information from the at least two sources exceeds an error threshold.

Claims 27-33. (Cancelled)

34. (Previously Presented) A computer-readable medium containing instructions for
causing a computer to perform a method of increasing reliability of booking airline travel
itineraries comprising the steps of:

obtaining a candidate itinerary including availability information from an itinerary
generation element in communication with an availability data source; and

creating a situation table based upon availability data for the candidate itinerary from
each of at least two data sources by a processing element, the situation table comprising sample
itineraries and historical availability information, wherein creating a situation table comprises:

obtaining availability information from at least two data sources based on the
candidate itinerary;

Appl. No.: 09/697,645
Amdt. dated 06/10/2005
Reply to final Office Action of 02/10/05

determining a difference between the availability information from the at least two sources; and

storing in the situation table an indication that the availability information should be updated prior to booking, wherein the indication is based on the difference; and determining whether the availability information should be updated based on the candidate itinerary and the situation table.

35. (Cancelled)

36. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 34 wherein the method further comprises the step of:

dynamically updating the situation table based on the availability information.

37. (Cancelled)

38. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 34, wherein the storing step further comprises:

storing in the situation table an indication that the availability information should be updated prior to booking but only when the candidate itinerary is not rendered irrelevant by fare rules.

39. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 34, wherein the storing step further comprises:

storing in the situation table an indication that the availability information should be updated prior to booking but only when a difference between the availability information from the at least two sources exceeds an error threshold.